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KINGTON RURAL DISTRICT
Herefordshire

Joint
A N N U A L R E P O R T
of the
Medical Officer of Health
and of the
Public Health Inspector
for the year 1960



MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

(As at 31st December 1960)

W.P. Edwards (Chairman of the Council)	..	Staunton-on-Arrow
Mrs. C.E. Hope (Vice-Chairman of the Council)	..	Whitney-on-Wye
W.C. Bevan	Kinsham
J.L. Butterworth	Byton
R.J. Cooper	Pembridge
J. Davies	Eardisley
J.V. Duggan	Kington Rural
R.H. Green	Lyonshall
J.D. Hutton	Lyonshall
J.C. Jay	Winferton with Willersley
H.H. Jones	Huntington
R. Jones	Pembridge
H. Owens	Stapleton
Dr. J.P. Paul	Brilley
A.P. Pearson	Pembridge
W.E. Pye	Titley
A.R. Wynne	Eardisley

Clerk to the Council .. A.W. Jones

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Medical Officer of Health,
Westfield Walk,
LEOMINSTER.

(Telephone: Leominster 2049)

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To the Chairman and Members of the Kington Rural
District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Hope, Gentlemen,

I herewith present my Annual Report for 1960,
together with the report of the Public Health Inspector.

Statistical Section

The figures being very small, few deductions can
be made from them. The Death Rate, however, remained
markedly low.

Infectious Diseases

A few cases of dysentery occurred during the year,
associated with a widespread outbreak in the North
Western part of the County.

Water, Drainage and Sewerage

Mr. Chillingford has drawn attention in his report
to the first steps now being taken to provide drainage
in Lyonshall, and to improve the disposal systems at
Eardisley and Pembridge.

These are matters of some importance and I hope
the Council will press on with them with unabated
enthusiasm and not allow the present, let us hope
temporary, financial embarrassment of the Treasury to
deter them from their purpose.

I would like to thank Mr. Chillingford for
completing much of this report, and for his help and
co-operation in the past year.

G.D.K. NEEDHAM

Medical Officer of Health

STATISTICS AND VITAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	44,472
Estimated mid-year home population	4,770
Average number of persons per acre11
Number of inhabited houses	1,413
Average number of inhabited houses per acre03
Average number of persons per house	3.4
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£26,378
Rateable Value	£96. 5. 3.

LIVE AND STILL BIRTHSLive Births

			Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	43	20	63
Illegitimate	2	3	5
			<hr/> 45	<hr/> 23	<hr/> 68

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:

	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Kington R.D. (Crude)	14.4	13.0	15.3	13.6	10.0
" " (Adjusted)	16.6	14.9	17.6	15.7	11.6
England and Wales	17.1	16.5	16.4	16.1	15.7

Illegitimate Live Births

Per cent of total live births:

Kington R.D.	..	7.4
England and Wales	..	5.4

Still Births

			Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	-	1	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total live and still births:

	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Kington R.D.	14.5	31.2	Nil	29.8	20.4
England and Wales	19.8	21.0	21.6	22.4	23.0

Total Live and Still Births

			Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	43	21	64
Illegitimate	2	3	5
			<hr/> 45	<hr/> 24	<hr/> 69

INFANT DEATH RATESEarly Neonatal MortalityDeaths of Infants under 1 week old

			Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	:: ::	-	-	-	-
Illegitimate	:: ::	-	-	-	-

Early Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births:

Kington R.D.	..	Nil
England and Wales	..	*

* figure not yet available

Neonatal MortalityDeaths of Infants under 4 weeks old

			Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	:: ::	1	-	-	1
Illegitimate	:: ::	-	-	-	-

Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births:

Kington R.D.	..	14.7
England and Wales	..	15.6

Perinatal MortalityStill Births and Deaths of Infants under 1 week old

			Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	:: ::	-	1	-	1
Illegitimate	:: ::	-	-	-	-

Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births:

Kington R.D.	..	14.5
England and Wales	..	32.9

Infant MortalityDeaths of Infants under 1 year of age
(including those under 4 weeks)

			Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	:: ::	1	1	-	2
Illegitimate	:: ::	-	-	-	-

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 related live births:

		1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Kington R.D.	(Total	29.4	Nil	13.6	15.4	20.8
	(Legitimate	31.9	Nil	14.4	16.1	21.3
	(Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
England & Wales	(Total	21.9	22.2	22.5	23.1	23.7
	(Legitimate	*	21.9	22.3	22.8	23.5
	(Illegitimate	*	27.4	27.8	30.0	28.7

* figures not yet available

MATERNAL MORTALITY

Total number of Maternal Deaths .. Nil

Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births:

Kington R.D.	..	Nil
England and Wales	..	0.39

DEATHS

	Males	Females	Total
Total number of deaths from all causes:	30	22	52

Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:

		1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Kington R.D. (Crude)	..	10.9	9.7	12.1	10.9	12.3
" " (Adjusted)	..	9.6	8.4	10.7	9.7	10.7
England and Wales	..	11.5	11.6	11.7	11.5	11.7

Cancer

	Males	Females	Total
Total deaths from Malignant Disease:	5	5	10

Cancer Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:

		1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Kington R.D.	..	2.10	1.05	1.89	2.72	2.70
England and Wales	..	2.16	2.14	2.12	2.09	2.08

Cardio-Vascular Disease

	Males	Females	Total
Total deaths from Cardio-Vascular Disease:	11	13	24

Cardio-Vascular Disease Death Rate per 1,000 estimated
mid-year home population:

		1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Kington R.D.	..	5.03	6.30	7.13	4.39	6.66
England and Wales	..	6.00	5.88	6.07	5.84	6.00

Respiratory Disease (excluding Tuberculosis)

		Males	Females	Total
Total deaths from Respiratory Disease:		7	1	8

Respiratory Disease Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year
home population:

		1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Kington R.D.	..	1.68	1.05	0.84	1.25	0.62
England and Wales	..	1.26	1.53	1.37	1.38	1.35

CAUSES OF DEATH (all ages)

Disease				Males	Females	Total
Malignant neoplasm, stomach		1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus				1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast		-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus		-	1	1
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms				3	3	6
Vascular lesions of nervous system				2	5	7
Coronary disease, angina		5	-	5
Other heart disease	4	5	9
Other circulatory disease		-	3	3
Pneumonia	2	1	3
Bronchitis	5	-	5
Congenital malformations		1	-	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases				4	2	6
Accidents, other than motor vehicle				1	-	1
Suicide	1	1	2
TOTAL	..			30	22	52

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE - KINGTON R.D.

Disease	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Whooping Cough	11	2	16	5	12
Measles	6	75	3	9	148
Scarlet Fever	-	4	-	11	2
Erysipelas	2	-	-	-	-
Acute Pneumonia	2	4	-	2	-
Dysentery	10	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis:					
Pulmonary	-	-	1	2	4
Non-Pulmonary	-	-	-	1	3

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE - NORTH HEREFORDSHIRE

Whooping Cough	70	38	39	192	87
Measles	189	388	258	144	561
Scarlet Fever	23	46	28	71	42
Erysipelas	4	4	2	7	8
Acute Encephalitis:					
Infective	3	-	-	-	-
Post-Infectious	1	-	-	-	-
Acute Pneumonia	18	33	14	49	20
Dysentery	123	3	16	38	7
Food Poisoning	39	3	5	10	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	1	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	2	3	2
Tuberculosis:					
Pulmonary	7	13	7	33	19
Non-Pulmonary	3	2	3	4	6
Acute Poliomyelitis:					
Paralytic	-	-	-	12	1
Non-Paralytic	-	-	-	14	-

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED IN NORTH HEREFORDSHIRE DURING THE YEAR 1960.

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
Whooping Cough	5	1	-	-	5	3	6	16	25	4	4	1	70
Measles	-	2	3	123	52	8	-	-	-	-	1	-	189
Scarlet Fever	6	2	3	4	2	-	-	-	1	1	1	3	23
Erysipelas	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	4
Acute Encephalitis:													
Infective	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	3
Post-Infectious	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Acute Pneumonia	3	1	4	5	3	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	18
Dysentery	-	-	18	14	24	29	30	6	2	-	-	-	125
Food Poisoning	1	-	4	2	9	8	-	-	2	7	6	-	39
Tuberculosis:													
Pulmonary	-	1	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	-	1	1	7
Non-Pulmonary	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	3

COMPARATIVE CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Disease	North Here- fordshire	England & Wales
Whooping Cough	1.85	1.27
Measles	4.99	3.48
Scarlet Fever	0.61	0.70
Erysipelas	0.11	0.06
Acute Encephalitis:		
Infective	0.08	0.0003
Post-Infectious	0.003	0.0002
Acute Pneumonia	0.47	0.32
Dysentery	3.24	0.94
Food Poisoning	1.03	0.17
Tuberculosis:		
Pulmonary	0.18	0.46
Non-Pulmonary	0.08	0.06

TUBERCULOSIS

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Number on Register at 31st December, 1959.	22	12	5	6
Moved out of district	2	-	-	-
Recovered	1	1	-	-
Number on Register at 31st December, 1960.	19	11	5	6

Year	New Notifications	Total cases on Register	Deaths	Recoveries
1956	7	55	2	3
1957	3	56	-	1
1958	1	48	1	6
1959	-	45	-	3
1960	-	41	-	2

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946, Section 26Vaccination and Immunisation

Vaccination and Immunisation are a County Council responsibility, and the figures given below have been kindly supplied by the County Medical Officer of Health.

Numbers of children in the district who were immunised during the year:

Immunisation against	Age of child			Total	Reinforcing Injections
	Under 1	1 - 4	5 - 14		
Diphtheria	42	11	5	58	110
Whooping Cough	40	10	-	50	-
Diphtheria/ Tetanus/ Whooping Cough	9	-	-	9	-

Numbers of children in the district who were vaccinated against Smallpox during the year:

Vaccination against Smallpox	Age of child					Total	Revaccinations
	Under 1 yr.	1 yr.	2-4	5-14	15 & over		
	50	2	2	2	1	57	12

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, Section 47
NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951

No action needed to be taken under this section during the year.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES AND INSPECTIONWATER SUPPLIES

The year 1960 saw the transfer of responsibility for public water supplies from the District Council to the Herefordshire Water Board. As a result of this, there was unfortunately a slowing down of the Comprehensive water scheme started in 1959 and which was well under way when the Board was constituted on the 1st April 1960. There will no doubt be an improvement when the Board is fully established.

WATER SUPPLIES (Continued)

One parish only, Pembridge, had been connected to the mains supply at the time of transfer to the Board, and no further connections were made during the remainder of the year. The supply for this parish is derived from a source in the adjoining district of Leominster and Wigmore and the examination of the raw water, and of the treated water going into the supply, have been carried out by that Authority.

The number of dwellings supplied from public water mains was as follows:-

(a) Direct to houses (Population 283)	81
(b) By means of standpipes (Population 18)	..	12
(c) Direct to hutments, Hergest Camp (Population 157)	45
Total		<u>138</u>

The remainder of the district was still dependent on wells, springs and estate supplies during the year. Serious shortages occurred as in previous years in certain parishes, and these problems were dealt with as they arose.

Eleven samples were taken for bacteriological examination during the year. Of these, four were satisfactory and seven unsatisfactory. Advice was given to owners, and remedial measures to improve supplies were recommended where necessary.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

There are no public swimming baths in the district.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

With the start of the laying of mains water throughout the district, the question of a sewage disposal scheme for the parish of Lyonshall, and the modernising of the existing works of disposal in the parishes of Eardisley and Pembridge became a matter of urgency. The Council instructed their consulting engineers to finalise these schemes and prepare estimates of costs. By the end of the year it was hoped these would be available for submission to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

The remainder of the parishes are those with a widely scattered population and the provision of main sewerage schemes for these will not be possible for economic reasons. Septic tank systems of drainage for individual properties are being encouraged therefore, and with the assistance of grants under Housing Acts, more and more of these systems are being installed.

FLOODING

Severe flooding occurred early in the month of December in three parishes, causing fairly heavy damage to property. Claims were invited from owners and occupiers and after inspection and approval these were passed to the County Appeal Fund for payment.

As the result of flood prevention work carried out by the Wye River Board during the year on behalf of the Council, the village of Eardisley was not affected by the flooding. This parish had suffered badly in previous years and the work now completed proved most satisfactory.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The work of refuse collection and disposal continued satisfactorily throughout the year. The quantity of household refuse collected increases year by year. Four tips are in operation, crude tipping and disposal being employed. The question of more frequent collection than once monthly from the three largest parishes is one that will arise in the future and will have to be considered.

RODENT CONTROL

Systematic survey and treatment, parish by parish, has been carried out, and rat infestation throughout the district has been kept under control. In addition to private and business property, the Council's sewers and disposal works, together with the refuse disposal tips, received routine attention.

Liaison with the Pests Department of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food has been well maintained, and notifications of infestations exchanged where necessary, this being followed by subsequent control measures.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

Council house repairs	147
Housing Acts	107
Nuisances and complaints		84
Building Byelaws	201
Water Supplies (general)		74
Water samples taken	11
Milk and Dairies Regulations	..			27
Milk samples taken	7
Food Premises	181
Disinfection following infectious				
disease				-
Disinfestation of verminous premises				-
Refuse Disposal	61
Sewerage	117
Hergest Camp	157
Miscellaneous	7

NOTICES ISSUED

Informal	5
Statutory	-
Complied with	5

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPSFACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959Inspections

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	11	13	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by L.A.	2	4	-	-
(3) Other Premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the L.A. (excluding out-workers' premises)	4	12	-	-
TOTAL	17	29	-	-

Cases in which defects were found

	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>
Want of cleanliness	4	4
Sanitary Conveniences:		
(a) Insufficient	1	1
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	1	1
(c) Not for separate sexes ..	1	1

HOUSING

The erection of the twenty-six dwellings at Hergest Camp was not completed by the end of the year as had been hoped, in spite of strong representations to the building contractor. Because of this, and also the fact that the houses being built by the U.D.C. to rehouse certain tenants from the Camp were also not completed, the converted hutments at Hergest Camp remained occupied throughout the year. Repairs as required were carried out on these hutments.

HOUSING (Continued)

By the end of the year negotiations had been completed for the leasing by the Council of nine hutments in three blocks of three, for occupation by problem families. As this lease is for a limited period only, further consideration will have to be given to this question.

Three houses were completed by private enterprise, and three others were under construction at the end of the year.

Fourteen applications for improvement grants towards the cost of improvements to private dwellings were received during the year. These were all approved, the amount granted being £3,554. Thirteen applications for Standard Grants were also received and approved, amounting to £1,605. The total grant for the year being £5,159. This reflects most favourably on the general trend of improvements to private dwellings which is going on throughout the district.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The two slaughterhouses are still in use in the district, and this has entailed routine visits on all occasions of slaughtering, the number of animals slaughtered and inspected being as follows:-

Cattle	..	160
Sheep	..	672
Pigs	..	188
Calves	..	1

The quantity of meat rejected as unfit for human consumption was relatively slight consisting of the following:-

Sheep	..	4 whole carcasses
Pigs	..	1 head

together with 49 lb. of offal.

This shows a very high quality of meat which is made available for sale in the district.

Food Premises

Thirty-four visits were made to other food premises where conditions generally were satisfactory, due consideration being given to the age of the buildings concerned and the availability or otherwise of essential services.

Food Premises are summarised as follows:-

General Stores	..	12
Butchers shops	..	2
Bakeries	..	2
Cafes	..	2
Public Houses	..	14

Number of Premises registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 .. 11

No prosecutions were made under the Food Hygiene Regulations.

